

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGR-05 EB-07
TRSE-00 AID-05 HEW-04 /064 W
-----070527Z 065460 /11

R 041530Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9869
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 GABORONE 1004

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, BC, RH, SF, WA, AO, LT
SUBJECT: BOTSWANA REFUGEE REPORT

REF: A. STATE 39794; B. GABORONE 651

SUMMARY: BOTSWANA REFUGEE POPULATION FLUCTUATING BUT STEADILY GROWING. TOTAL AS OF APRIL 30 WAS 3147. LARGEST NUMBER IS RHODESIANS. ZAPU ELEMENTS HAVING FAIRLY RAPID TURNOVER BUT UANC "STUCK" IN BOTSWANA. ABOUT 20 SOUTH AFRICANS PER WEEK ARRIVING. UNHCR ATTEMPTING TO PLACE ANGOLANS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. VIRTUALLY ALL NAMIBIANS ARE SWANU WHO CANNOT GO ON TO THIRD COUNTRIES. NO CHANGES AMONG BASOTHO. END SUMMARY.

1. 3147 REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA AS OF APRIL 30 DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS: 2307 RHODESIANS, 496 SOUTH AFRICANS, 93 ANGOLANS, 71 NAMIBIANS, 175 BASOTHO, 3 MALAWIANS (JEHOVAH'S WIT-
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NESSES), 1 MOZAMBICAN (FRELIMO) AND 1 UGANDAN. THIS NUMBER FLUCTUATES GREATLY, HOWEVER, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE RHODESIANS. ZAPU IS MOVING RECRUITS TO ZAMBIA AT A HIGH RATE. THESE ARE BEING REPLACED EVEN MORE RAPIDLY. ZAPU APPARENTLY HAS PLENTIFUL FUNDS FOR TRANSPORT AND IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY ONLY IN FINDING ENOUGH PLANES AND PILOTS. BOTSWANA SPECIAL BRANCH THINKS THAT THE

SOVIETS ARE SUPPLYING THE MONEY. THE NUMBER OF MUZOREWA FOLLOWERS STRANDED IN BOTSWANA CONTINUES TO GROW AND IS ESTIMATED BY SPECIAL BRANCH TO BE AT LEAST 600. THE GOB CONTINUES TO BE CONCERNED THAT BOTSWANA HAS BECOME A "CUL-DE-SAC" FOR THESE UANC RECRUITS. THERE ARE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE OTHER REFUGEE GROUPS HERE. (NOTE: THIS REPORT IS KEYED TO QUESTIONS POSED REF A. IN CATEGORIES WHERE THERE IS NO CHANGE FROM REF B, THIS IS SO NOTED.)

2. RHODESIANS: 2307

A. DISTRIBUTION:

894 - FRANCISTOWN
1198 - SELEBI-PIKWE
198 - GABORONE
2 - SEROWE
4 - MOLEPOLOLE
8 - LOBATSI
3 - KANYE

B. COMPOSITION: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS:

(1) FOOD: UNHCR HAS RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION FROM GENEVA TO RAISE THE MONTHLY ALLOWANCE EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 FROM P20 TO P30 (US \$36) PER MONTH FOR RHODESIANS AND OTHER REFUGEES ON BOTSWANA COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES' ROLES. UNHCR HOPES THAT INCREASE WILL ALLOW REFUGEES TO HAVE BETTER DIET AND SHELTER. WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND OXFAM CONTINUE TO FEED MOST RHODESIAN REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA. GOB IS CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKING UP SOME SHORTFALL FROM ITS OWN RESOURCES.

(2) SHELTER: REFUGEES IN FRANCISTOWN VIRTUALLY ALL LIVING AT TRANSIT CAMP WHICH IS DESIGNED FOR ONE-THIRD THE NUMBER. UNHCR OFFICIAL DESCRIBES SITUATION AS "APPALLING", BUT IMPROVEMENTS TO CAMP NOW UNDER WAY. ALL RHODESIANS IN SELEBI-PIKWE LIVING IN AND AROUND THE PRISON. SELEBI-PIKWE CAMP DESIGNED FOR 500 TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS. UNHCR BELIEVES CAMP COULD BE EXPANDED TO HOUSE 1000 PERSONS IF NECESSARY.

(3) EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: NO CHANGE FROM REF B. WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE MANY LETTERS FROM RHODESIANS ASKING FOR PLACEMENT AND/OR SCHOLARSHIP IN U.S. WE ARE AWAITING INFORMATION ON UNDER-GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS MENTIONED STATE 20010.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: NO CHANGE EXCEPT AS NOTED ABOVE.

3. SOUTH AFRICANS: 496

A. DISTRIBUTION:

353 - GABORONE
49- FRANCISTOWN
5 - MAHALAPYE
6 - 6 - SEROWE
1 - PALAPYE
2 - SELEBI-PIKWE
2 - TULI BLOCK
32 - MOCHUDI
3 - RAMOTSWA
19- MOLEPOLOLE
21 - LOBATSE
3 - KANYE

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B. COMPOSITION: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS:

- (1) FOOD NO CHANGE.
- (2) SHELTER: NO CHANGE
- (3) EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: 86 SOUTH AFRICAN

AND RHODESIAN SECONDARY STUDENTS WERE TRANSPORTED TO
NIGERIA BY UNHCR IN MARCH. 23 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN
STRANDED IN LUSAKA BUT MOST WILL NOW BE ALLOWED
TO PROCEED TO LAGOS. NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT MAY BE
WILLING TO TAKE UP TO 40 MORE. BURSARIES FOR MOST

OF THE ABOVE TO BE FUNDED BY IUEF. UNHCR CONTINUES TO SEARCH FOR OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILLING TO ACCEPT REFUGEE STUDENTS. COUNTRIES BEING CONTACTED INCLUDE GHANA, LIBERIA AND ZAMBIA. DESPITE THESE EFFORTS, HOWEVER, THE REMAINING SECONDARY SCHOOL-LEVEL REFUGEES FACE A SERIOUS SHORTAGE OF PLACES. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE GOB HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT A NUMBER OF THEM INTO THE BOTS-
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WANA SCHOOL SYSTEM IF DONORS FUND THE TWO REQUIRED SCHOOLS. THE EMBASSY/AID DISCUSSED WITH GOB THE FINANCING OF THESE TWO SCHOOLS PLUS BURSARIES, SALARIES AND OTHER RECURRENT COSTS (GABORONE 908). WE ARE AWAITING CONCRETE GOB PROPOSALS.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: NO CHANGE EXCEPT AS NOTED ABOVE.

4. ANGOLANS: 93

A. DISTRIBUTION:

19 - GABORONE
54 - MAUN
20- ETSWA

B. COMPOSITION: ONE MPLA, REMAINDER FNL.

C. NEEDS:

- (1) FOOD: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.
- (2) SHELTER: ANGOLANS IN MAUN HOUSED IN MAUN PRISON. THOSE REMAINING AT ETSWA IN TENTS OR RON-DAVELS. IN GABORONE, TWO FAMILIES PLUS SEVERAL SINGLE PERSONS SHARE A RENTED DWELLING.
- (3) EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: TWO FAMILIES (12 PERSONS) DEPARTED FOR PORTUGAL IN LATE APRIL. THIS ARRANGEMENT WAS WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN BOTSWANA AND PORTUGUESE DIPLOMATIC AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA. AT LEAST ONE FAMILY HAS BEEN GRANTED AUTHORITY TO RESettle IN ZAIRE BUT IS HESITANT BECAUSE OF POLITICAL/ MILITARY SITUATION THERE. UNHCR HAS SUBMITTED VIA UNHCR KINSHASA A LIST OF 30 ANGOLANS WHO WISH TO GO TO ZAIRE. UNHCR ALSO ATTEMPTING TO FIND OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILLING TO ACCEPT ANGOLANS. ONE INDIVIDUAL ATTEMPTING ON HIS OWN TO GET TO FRANCE BUT FRENCH EMBASSY IN LUSAKA HAS REFUSED RENEWAL OF EXPIRED REFUGEE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ORIGINALLY ISSUED TO HIM IN PARIS.

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5. NAMIBIANS: 71

A. DISTRIBUTION:

68 - FRANCISTOWN

3 - GABORONE

B. COMPOSITION: 66 SWANU, 5 SWAPO; NO OTHER

CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS: NO CHANGE.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: SWANU REPS TOLD UNHCR

THAT KENYA HAS AGREED TO TAKE THEIR ENTIRE GROUP FOR
FURTHER EDUCATION IF SCHOLARSHIPS COULD BE FOUND. REPS
SUBSEQUENTLY CLAIMED THAT SCHOLARSHIPS HAD BEEN PROMISED
BY COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT AND OTHERS. UNHCR SKEPTICAL
AND IS CONTACTING SECRETARIAT TO VERIFY.

6. BASOTHO: 175

A. DISTRIBUTION:

152 - GABORONE

9- LOBATSE

2 - MOCHUDI

2 - RAMOTSWA

5 - MOLEPOLOLE

1 - SEROWE

3 - FRANCISTOWN

1 - SELEBI-PIKWE

B. COMPOSITION: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS: NO CHANGE.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: NO CHANGE.

ALBERTI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, REPORTS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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